

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

**Call to Order: CHAIRMAN ROY BROWN**, on January 26, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 317-A Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Roy Brown, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Terry Murphy, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Greg Hinkle (R)  
Sen. Carol C. Juneau (D)  
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)  
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Trudi Schmidt (D)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Joan Linkenbach, Committee Secretary  
Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 63, 1/8/2009; SB 83, 1/8/2009;  
SJ 5, 1/8/2009

Executive Action: SJ 5

**HEARING ON SB 63**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:03 **SEN. RICK LAIBLE (R), SD 44**, opened the hearing on **SB 63**, Tax incentives for volunteer EMTs and their employers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:07:11 Cliff Christian, American Heart Association (AHA),  
American Stroke Association (ASA)

**EXHIBIT (phs18a01)**

00:15:07 Todd O'Hair, Rio Tinto Energy America (RTEA)  
00:17:26 Boyce Fowler, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)  
00:19:41 Aimee Grmoljez, Attorney, Billings Clinic (BC)  
00:20:42 Mike Foster, Wheaton County Hospital (WCH), Sisters of Charity Hospitals of Montana (SCHM), Montana Catholic Hospitals (MCH)  
00:22:51 Erin MacLean, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:23:47 Chairman Brown  
00:24:14 Sen. Laible

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:25:19 Sen. Laible

**HEARING ON SB 83**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:28:52 **SEN. RICK LAIBLE (R), SD 44**, opened the hearing on **SB 83**, Confidentiality protection for review of emergency service calls.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:32:39 Jim DeTienne, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Trauma  
Systems Section, Department of Public Health and Human  
Services (DPHHS)

**EXHIBIT (phs18a02)**

00:38:32 Susan Bomstad, Missoula 911  
00:41:17 Cliff Christian, AHA, ASA  
00:46:13 Debbie Ogden, Missoula 911, Missoula Emergency Medical  
Services (MEMS)  
00:49:02 Forrest Merrill, Missoula County Emergency Medical  
Responder (MCEMR)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:50:43 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)  
00:56:05 John Barrows, Executive Director, Montana Newspaper  
Association (MNA)

**EXHIBIT (phs18a03)**

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:04:45 Sen. Lewis  
01:05:09 Sen. Laible  
01:05:32 Sen. Lewis  
01:05:42 Chairman Brown  
01:06:06 Sen. Laible  
01:09:31 Sen. Larsen  
01:10:02 Sen. Laible  
01:11:20 Sen. Larsen  
01:11:35 Sen. Laible  
01:12:42 Sen. Schmidt  
01:13:17 Sen. Laible  
01:13:23 Sen. Schmidt  
01:13:28 Chairman Brown  
01:13:51 Mr. Christian, AHA  
01:14:05 Chairman Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:14:14 Sen. Laible

**HEARING ON SJ 5**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:14:45 **SEN. RICK LAIBLE (R), SD 44**, opened the hearing on **SJ 5**, Continued interim monitoring of health care pricing and information disclosure.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:18:24 Bob Olsen, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

**EXHIBIT (phs18a04)**

01:24:05 Mike Foster, Wheaton County Hospital (WCH), Sisters of Charity Hospitals of Montana (SCHM), Montana Catholic Hospitals (MCH)  
01:28:55 Tanya Ask, New West Health Services (NWHS)  
01:30:30 Aimee Grmoljez, Attorney, Billings Clinic (BC)  
01:31:22 Margaret Morgan, Montana Physical Therapists Association (MPTA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:32:04 Connie Welsh, Health Care Benefits Division, Department of Administration (DOA)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:32:30 Sen. Schmidt  
01:33:40 Mr. Foster, WCH, SCHM, MCH  
01:33:51 Chairman Brown  
01:34:18 Bob Olsen, MHA  
01:36:30 Chairman Brown  
01:36:55 Bob Olsen, MHA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:38:06 Sen. Laible  
01:40:43 Chairman Brown  
01:45:43 Sen. Schmidt  
01:46:08 Chairman Brown

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 5**

01:46:53 **Motion:** SEN. SCHMIDT moved that **SJ 5 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

01:47:03 Sen. Hinkle

01:47:45 Chairman Brown

01:48:29 Sen. Schmidt

01:49:13 Chairman Brown

01:49:58 Sen. Larsen

01:50:45 Chairman Brown

01:51:08 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:50 P.M.

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JOAN LINKENBACH, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([phs18aad.pdf](#))**